

Dear FCC Commisioners:

Whatever happened to the concept of "to serve the public interest?" I know that you know about Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-John Kerry "documentary" days before the election. This is a another example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated BY LAW to serve the public interest. It is your mandate to uphold this law. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their bottom line and less of what is right for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.

-John Pinella
Indianapolis